

Claim 3, line 2, before "the amino acid", please
insert --of--.

Claim 4, line 2, before "the amino acid", please
insert --of--.

Delete claim 23 without prejudice, and reinsert the
subject matter thereof as new claim 24 as follows:

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~~--24. A purified human Desert hedgehog protein
obtainable by expression of a DNA isolated from a human cell,
wherein the DNA comprises a nucleotide sequence amplifiable by
polymerase chain reaction using a sense primer encoding a part
of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 in the region of the
amino acids -22 to -1 in combination with an antisense primer
complementary to a nucleotide sequence encoding a part of the
amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 in the region of the amino
acids 177 to 374 and encodes a contiguous amino acid sequence
which conserves amino acid residues corresponding to Glu-155
and one or more residues selected from the group consisting of
Ala-14, Gly-20, and Ala-46 of the amino acid sequence of SEQ
ID NO:1.~~

REMARKS

Applicants have considered the Advisory Action of
June 29, 2000, along with the final action. Applicants accept
the non-entry of the Amendment filed June 9, 2000. The
amendment presented above replaces the non-entered amendment